

For the diagnosis of renal or bladder tuberculosis the author recommends the cover-slip method, but most bacteriologists would prefer to rely upon the inoculation test. The obsolete method of obtaining, by simple skin puncture, blood for cultural purposes should have been entirely omitted, since no reliance whatever can be placed upon the results. Altogether, the book leaves a very favorable impression although it seems to us that the author in his desire to simplify methods has sometimes done so at the expense of exactness and reliability.

A. J. L.

The Dynamics of Living Matter. By Jacques Loeb, Professor of Physiology in the University of California. The Columbia University Press. The Macmillan Company, Agents.

This book is based upon a series of lectures delivered at Columbia University in the spring of 1902. The aim was to give an account of the lecturer's investigations and views on the dynamics of living matter, in other words a discussion of development, self-preservation and reproduction chiefly from the physico-chemical point of view. The character of the subjects treated precludes any extended review here; we can do no more than indicate the contents of the volume in a very general way. Moreover, the results of Professor Loeb's researches have been freely commented upon elsewhere. After a short introduction in which the work of Mandel and de Vries receives adequate recognition, the writer devotes three chapters to a consideration of the general chemistry of life phenomena, the physical constitution of living matter, and the physical manifestations of life. Of perhaps less general medical interest are the discussions on the role of electrolytes, the effects of heat and radiant energy upon living matter, heliotropism, and tropisms and related phenomena. On the other hand, the sections on fertilization and heredity have a more common interest. The volume is concluded with the article on the dynamics of regenerative processes.

A. J. L.

Prophylaxis and Treatment of Internal Diseases, Designed for the Use of the Practitioner and of the Advanced Students of Medicine. By F. Forchheimer, M. D. Professor of Theory and Practice of Medicine and Clinical Medicine, Medical College of Ohio, Department of Medicine of the University of Cincinnati, etc. D. Appleton & Company, New York. 1906.

There has been a long felt want in our medical literature for just such a book as the Prophylaxis and Treatment of Internal Diseases. It is well conceived and ably written, bringing the sum of therapeutic knowledge to date. The author has given us sound advice when he says: "Meddlesome medication does more harm than good"; also, "Be sure of one drug and use it, till something is proved better." Serum treatment with statistics, organo-therapy, hydrotherapy, massage and gymnastics, are handled in a clear and concise manner. Dietetics has also received consideration. In the treatment of diseases of the heart, variation of blood pressure as an indication for therapeutic intervention, has not been touched upon. There is no other class of diseases where such keen perception and good judgment is necessary, and we should have liked to have had the benefit of the author's experience in a more free discussion of symptoms and indications, with possibly the citation of a few illustrative cases. The work shows much care and thought and is most valuable to both student and practitioner.

J. B. F.

A Nurse's Handbook of Medicine. By J. Norman Henry, M. D., Clinical Professor of Medicine, Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania; Assistant Physician, Philadelphia Hospital; Physi-

cian to Out-Patient Department and Lecturer to Nurses, Pennsylvania Hospital, etc. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia and London. 1906.

This book, based on the lectures delivered by Dr. Henry during the last four years to the nurses of the Pennsylvania Hospital, fills a long-felt want. The author confines himself to a consideration of the more common diseases which are of interest to nurses. There is also a very excellent though brief chapter on diet. It is to be regretted that the definitions contained in the General Considerations are so vaguely and loosely worded as to be, in some instances, misleading; and we are certainly at variance with the author when he states that typhoid fever is definitely limited to a four weeks' course and that one attack confers immunity against another. Further, the wisdom of incorporating the drug treatment of diseases will no doubt be questioned by many; it would have been much better to have entirely omitted this phase of the subject and devoted this space to a fuller consideration of the nursing side. Aside from this, however, the book is a good one and we do not hesitate to recommend it to the class of readers for whom it is intended.

K. I. L.

The Operating Room and the Patient. By Russell S. Fowler, M. D. Surgeon to the German Hospital, Brooklyn, New York. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London. 1906.

The appearance of this small book does not call for comment. Whilst intended primarily for internes and nurses, it will undoubtedly be found of great value by a large class of practitioners whose training is deficient in this respect. The opening chapter is an excellent though brief discussion of the disposition of the operating room and the conduct of its personnel. There are two good sections devoted to the Instrument and Supply Room. The subject of Anesthesia is admirably treated; while all matters pertaining to the patient are very fully considered in the two succeeding chapters. Finally, the book terminates with a list of instruments required in different operations. The text is very fully illustrated.

A. J. L.

Eating To Live With Some Advice to the Gouty, Rheumatic, and the Diabetic. A Book for Everybody. By John Janvier Black, M. D. Member of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia; Member of the Delaware State Medical Society; Author of "Forty Years in the Medical Profession," "Cultivation of the Peach, Pear, Quince, and Nut-Bearing Trees," etc. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia and London. 1906.

In the past when the care of the sick remained largely in the hands of the women-folk, the composition of remedies, and the making of dinners went on in the same apartment. Indeed, as Jeafferson has remarked, hunger and thirst were but two out of a list of diseases that were ministered to by the attendants round the kitchen table. The same book held the receipts for dishes and the recipes for electuaries. In many an old hall, in England, the manual still remains from which four centuries ago the lady of the house learned to dress a boar's head or cure a cold. So far as dietetics is concerned, the traditional position has remained to this day practically unchanged. Most physicians disdain to give dietetic instruction to a patient beyond the most general directions. Nevertheless, Sir Theodore Mayerne, the most eminent physician of his time, thought it worth while to write, "Excellent and Well-Approved Receipts in Cookery, with the Best Way of Preserving."

Within the last few years, noteworthy contributions to the subject have been made. The investigations of von Leibig, Sir Henry Thompson, Atwater, and others have advanced dietetics from the realm of mere empiricism to almost an exact science.